

15 November 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Medical Services

SUBJECT : Alcohol Program

1. During the period 1 January - 31 October 1973, a total of 22 employees have been seen in the Psychiatric Staff with significant problems related to alcohol. In five instances, supervisors have been counseled concerning employees who presented problems related to alcohol overusage, and in four instances employees have been counseled concerning alcohol problems in relatives (two wives, one father and one husband).

2. Among the employees, official requests for evaluation were the most common mode of referral. In eight instances, employees were returned from overseas short of tour because of problems related to alcohol, one employee was seen in a fitness for duty evaluation, and two employees were seen in TDY evaluations. It is important to note that in one of the TDY evaluations, the employee was approved. In this last instance the employee is an energetic and reformed alcoholic who is doing a satisfactory job. Informal division referrals in which some degree of persuasion is utilized in encouraging the employee to see OMS occurred in six cases and in five instances the employees sought OMS assistance in a self-referral setting.

3. Among the employees, hospitalization for short periods of time with subsequent AA type rehabilitation was utilized in nine instances. In eight instances referrals were made to AA's. In four cases the excessive use of alcohol seemed to be related to particular life stresses and was thus considered to be on a secondary or reactive basis. None of the employees surveyed appear to have been followed in regular, individual, intensive psychotherapy, although some may continue to be under the general supervision of a psychiatrist for administration of Antabuse, etcetera.

4. Among the employees surveyed, it appears that four were referred to the alcohol coordinator, either directly or through the PEB mechanism, two are being followed on a formal Medical Office conditional status, and three employees appear to have left the Agency -- one on medical disability retirement, one on retirement for service, and one as a result of the reduction in force exercise last spring.

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SUBJECT TO GENERAL INFORMATION SCHEDULE  
OF E. O. 11652, AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED AT  
THE YEAR 2000

Alcohol Program - 15 November 1973

5. These figures are approximations and have been obtained by cursory review of the daily clinical reports. It is possible that more careful review would disclose some further cases.

6. It is hoped that this information will be of use.



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Chief, Psychiatric Staff